

D R A F T
VISION 2020 ENVIRONMENT TASK GROUP
OCTOBER 28, 2014 MEETING

SPY POND COMMITTEE
Town Hall Annex, First Floor

In attendance: Brad Barber, Bill Eykamp, Joey Glushko, Jane Howard, Elizabeth Karpati, Bob and Harriet Noyes, Stroker Rogovin.

Facilitator: Brad Barber

Minutes: Elizabeth Karpati

Next meeting: 7:00 p.m. (note time!) Tuesday, Dec. 2. Town Hall Annex, first floor.

2015 meetings: 7:30 p.m. Tuesdays, Jan. 6, Feb. 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2 (social), Sept. 1, Oct. 4, Nov. 3, Dec. 1. Town Hall Annex, first floor, except social.

- The **minutes** of the previous meeting were not voted on.

Miscellaneous notes:

- The old **contour map** of Spy Pond is all wrong. Bill has a more recent one but it is still about 10 years old.
- **Avifauna:** A wood duck was seen at the handicapped ramp. There was a large flock of cormorants recently and a possible bald eagle was sighted.
- The **rowing** season has ended. The Arlington-Belmont crew did well in competition.
- The **canoe/kayak rental** program lost money this year. Recreation programs are supposed to be self-supporting. This program will be continued one more year, with just one paid staff. Maybe it needs more publicity – *Arlington Advocate*, *Arlington Shopper*, Arlington List, Town website, newsletters and e-mail lists of various groups were suggested.
- It would be good to have a **Facebook** page for Spy Pond but somebody would have to be willing to keep it up-to-date. Who did our old website – Dave Kopans?
- Joey has seen some references to Spy Pond being **stocked with fish** in the old days -- 1970s.
- MyRWA has some 900 **volunteers**, many from companies with volunteer programs.
- The **warrant article** for the water bodies fund is due in January. The other committees concerned should be invited to our December meeting for 7:30 and we should meet at 7 p.m. for other business.

Spy Pond Splash, co-sponsored by Spy Pond Committee and Friends of Spy Pond Park:

- Brad talked with Karen Grossman, President of FSPP. They propose the **date** of May 30, 2015, the weekend between Memorial Day and high school graduation. We approved the date, which must be checked with other groups that may want to participate. MyRWA is interested. There should be a coordinating committee with a representative from each group.
- **Events** could include a boat race between groups like Boys & Girls Club, high school, Chamber of Commerce; kids' activities and tours of Elizabeth Island which are usually part of FSPP Fun Day; treasure hunt or a "passport" to get stamped at each station. The Public Art committee is already planning an exhibit at Spy Pond Park next May.

- Fish & Wildlife could be asked to **stock the pond** again – a spectator event if done on May 30.
- Joe Connelly can lend the 2 **canoes**, 2 kayaks, and one tandem kayak owned by the Recreation Dept. and use the event to advertise his rental program.
- Some **food** should be available, at least an ice cream truck; possibly something from the Food Recovery Project.
- Stroker is in a **band** (sextet) which could provide music.
- Jane noted that the quote from the 2007 minutes which was attached to the Sept. 2014 minutes and mentioned the **attendance** at the first Spy Pond Splash was in error – according to her recollection the attendance was around 200 rather than 700 people, and this should be noted on the old minutes..